### What is a FIRMette?

A FIRMette is a "clip" of a National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) scanned flood map image made using the Flood Map Image Tool (F-MIT) computer application. It is intended to be considered official, thus making it usable in all aspects of the NFIP including floodplain management, flood insurance, and enforcing mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements.

# Key Features of the FIRMette:

- ✓ User-defined portion of the map image at the same scale as the FIRM;
- ✓ Map title block, north arrow, and scale bar;

#### What Can You Do with a FIRMette?

- ✓ Print, View, or Save;
- ✓ Print to standard page sizes, using a printer or a plotter;
- ✓ Send to others via e-mail or fax; and
- ✓ Include in case files.

To be a legal representation of a portion of the FIRM panel, the FIRMette must be printed at the same scale as the original FIRM panel. Therefore, the FIRMette map window is preset to that scale.

A sample FIRMette is shown on the reverse side. It was made from a panel of the Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, FIRM.

# What is the Flood Map Image Tool (F-MIT)?

F-MIT is a computer application that helps users to view and navigate the scanned FIRM images and print a selected area as a FIRMette. Future versions of F-MIT will allow more extensive look-ups and retrievals of scanned images. Additionally, it will help users who do not have a Geographic Information System (GIS) to make use of the DFIRM GIS data.

## When will FIRMettes be available?

The FEMA Map Service Center is completing the process of scanning all the FEMA-issued flood maps and studies. Soon these digital products will be available for purchase. Sample flood map images and a beta version of F-MIT are available for download and testing on the Map Service Center web site at <a href="www.msc.fema.gov">www.msc.fema.gov</a>. We are planning to make F-MIT Version 1.0 and the scanned maps available by late Spring 2002. Check the Map Service Center's web page for updated release information.

